

Practice Bibliography Cards

Directions: Use the information below to create properly cited bibliography cards. Assume that they are bibliography cards for sources number one, two, and three.

Book

Authors: Laura O'Biso and Sarah Socha

Title: Endangered Species of the World

Publisher: Friedman Publishing Group

Place of Publication: New York

Year of Publication: 1997

Encyclopedia Article

Title of Article: Endangered Species

Title of Encyclopedia: Encyclopedia Britannica

Edition: 3rd

Year of Publication: 2001

Online Article

Author: Noel Grove

Article Name: Quietly Conserving Nature

Title of Website or Page:

Human Beings and Endangered Species

Date of Publication: 2012

Date of Access: January 22, 2013

URL Address: www.infohio.org

Sample Thesis statement: The endangerment of animals is a severe issue that can be prevented through the study of different types of endangered species, reasons contributing to the endangered status of species, and ways to prevent future environmental damage and help save endangered species.

Human Beings and Endangered Species

Roughly 99 percent of threatened species are at risk because of human activities alone. By the early 21st century, it could be said that human beings (*Homo sapiens*) are the greatest threat to biodiversity. The principal threats to species in the wild are: 1) Habitat loss and habitat degradation, 2) the spread of introduced species (that is, non-native species that negatively affect the ecosystems they become part of), 3) the growing influence of global warming and chemical pollution, 4) unsustainable hunting, and 5) disease.

Although some of these hazards occur naturally, most are caused by human beings and their economic and cultural activities. The most pervasive of these threats, however, is habitat loss and degradation—that is, the large-scale conversion of land in previously undisturbed areas driven by the growing demand for commercial agriculture, timber extraction, and infrastructure development. With the rates of loss being highest in some of the most biologically diverse regions on Earth, there is a perpetual battle to manage destructive activities while limiting the impact that such restrictions may have on the well-being of local communities. The relative importance of each threat differs among and between taxa. So far, incidental mortality, temporary or limited human disturbance, and persecution have caused limited reductions in the total number of species; however, these phenomena can be serious for some susceptible groups. In addition, global warming has emerged as a widespread threat, and much research is being conducted to identify its potential effects on specific species, populations, and ecosystems.

Conflicts between human activities and conservation are at the root of many of these phenomena. Such controversies are often highly politicized and widely publicized in the global media. For example, habitat and species loss have resulted from the unregulated exploitation of coltan (the rare ore for tantalum used in consumer electronics products such as mobile phones and computers) in Kahuzi-Biega National Park, one of the Democratic Republic of the Congo's premiere forest parks. The park is also home to a significant portion of the threatened Eastern Lowland gorilla (*Gorilla beringei graueri*). Mining has increased gorilla mortality by reducing the animal's food resources and leading many people displaced by the mining activities to kill gorillas for their meat. In addition, the mountain gorilla (*G. beringei beringei*), a close relative of the Eastern Lowland gorilla, is also at risk of extinction; however, authorities cite poaching, disease, and crossfire between warring political groups in the vicinity of Virunga National Park as the primary sources of population decline.

Another example of a widely publicized wildlife controversy involves the relatively recent declines in amphibian populations. Known to be important global indicators of environmental health, amphibians have experienced some of the most serious reductions in conservation status to date of all groups that have been assessed globally through the IUCN Red List process (*see below*). Amphibians (a group that includes salamanders, frogs, toads, and caecilians), being particularly sensitive to environmental changes, are severely threatened by habitat destruction, pollution, the spread of a disease called amphibian chytridiomycosis, and climate change.

Beyond these notable examples, many of the world's birds and aquatic life are also at risk. The populations of some bird species (such as some albatrosses, petrels, and penguins) are declining because of longline fishing, whereas those of others (such as certain cranes, rails, parrots, pheasants, and pigeons) have become victims of habitat destruction. On many Pacific islands, the accidental introduction of the brown tree snake (*Boiga irregularis*) has wreaked havoc on many bird populations. In addition, many fishes and other marine species are long-lived and have life-history strategies that require many years to reach sexual maturity. As a result, they are particularly susceptible to exploitation. The meat and fins of many sharks, rays, chimaeras, and whales fetch high prices in many parts of the world, which has resulted in the unsustainable harvest of several of those species.

Moreover, freshwater habitats worldwide are progressively threatened by pollution from industry, agriculture, and human settlements. Additional threats to freshwater ecosystems include introduced invasive species (such as the sea lamprey [*Petromyzon marinus*] in the Great Lakes), the canalization of rivers (such as in the streams that empty into the Everglades in Florida), and the overharvesting of freshwater species (as in the case of the extinct Yunnan box turtle [*Cuora yunnanensis*] in China). While an estimated 45,000 described species rely on freshwater habitats, it is important to note that humans are also seriously affected by the degradation of freshwater species and ecosystems.

Against this backdrop of threats related to urban expansion and food production, the unsustainable harvest of animal and plant products for traditional medicine and the pet trade is a growing concern in many parts of the world. These activities have implications on local ecosystems and habitats by exacerbating population declines through overharvesting. In addition, they have cross-border repercussions in terms of trade and illegal trafficking.

NOTECARDS

Directions: Use the article above, your thesis statement, and your bibliography cards to help you create two correctly formatted information note cards. Remember to include a subtopic heading and bibliography source # on each card. Include at least one properly formatted quote!

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Research Notecards Exit Slip

Directions: Use the information below to create a bibliography card and two additional notecards

Magazine Article

Author: Madeline Nash

Title of Article: Titanic: The Unsinkable Ship

Title of Magazine: Time

Edition and Issue Number: Not available

Publication Date: January 27, 2002

Page #: 56-57

Bibliography Card

Titanic: The Unsinkable Ship

On April 10, 1912, the RMS *Titanic* embarked on its maiden voyage, sailing from Southampton, England, to New York City. One of the largest and most luxurious passenger liners at the time, the *Titanic* was also considered by many to be unsinkable. On April 14, however, the ship struck an iceberg, and early the next day it sank. Some 1,500 people perished. Because of the tragedy, the *Titanic* became perhaps the best-known ship in the world, capturing the public imagination and inspiring popular books and movies. After the 1985 discovery of its wreckage, interest in the famed liner only increased. Some 100 years after its sinking, the *Titanic* remains an enduring legend.

Notecards: Create two correctly formatted note cards using the information above. Remember to include a subtopic heading and bibliography source # on each card. Include at least one quote.

Thesis Statement: The Titanic is an everlasting legend that is well known for its background history, influence on popular culture, and discovery of its wreckage.